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STOUT et al. S.N. 09/769,245

Please charge the fee of \$54 for the three extra claims of any type added herewith, to Deposit Account 25-0120.

REMARKS

The claims are amended herewith in a manner that overcomes the indefiniteness rejection, and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action.

At pages 2-3 of the Official Action, claims 8, 9, 12, 14, 16 and 17, as previously in the case, were rejected for indefiniteness.

It is believed to be apparent that the amendments made to those claims herewith are effective to overcome that rejection. Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's helpful suggestions for overcoming certain of the informalities in the claims as originally filed. As to claims 14, 16 and 17, which recited preferred aspects within general aspects, the preferred aspects are deleted from those claims and made the subject of new claims 23-25.

It is therefore believed that the rejection of certain of the original claims for indefiniteness should be withdrawn and not repeated with respect to any of the claims as they now appear in the case.

Claims 1-22 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over GARDINER 6,136,339 in view of WEINSTEIN et al. 6,013,290, WO 96/04240, FANG 5,886,040,